

NEWS

**PIOSC,**  
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scholarships to deserving students.

“The scholarships will provide much needed help to most of the high school students, as some of them will have to pay for college themselves,” said Susan Jordan, PIOSC board member and scholarship chairman. “Any amount is beneficial to them.”

High school students were not the only ones receiving scholarships from the

PIOSC this year. “I was very happy to see that we offered the scholarships to military spouses,” said Jordan. “For them it can be hard to get scholarships, because they usually attend college part time.” The PIOSC does not stop at extending a hand to service members and their families. They also give money back to the community through various organizations such as the American Cancer Society and the Beaufort Humane

Association. “We provide donations to military organizations as well as organizations out in town,” said Jordan. “It is a way to show appreciation for what they do for us and put some money back into the community.” “It’s a tremendous feeling being able to donate not only to our military organizations and schools, but to also help contribute to the organizations in our local community that promote music and art, help at-

risk youth and animals, and assist terminally ill people,” said Kathy Hulbert, PIOSC philanthropy chairman. The PIOSC also extends its thanks to all of the efforts of people who made the donations and scholarships possible. “The scholarship committee put in a tremendous amount of time and effort,” said Jordan. “Many thanks to Amy Mize, Yvette Shaffer, Michelle Allen and Muffy Pugliese for their contributions.”

**Scholarships granted ...**

- Exceeding last year’s totals, the PIOSC contributed \$9,700 to the future of military families and the local community.
- These local organizations received donations: the Beaufort Chapter of the American Cancer Society, Arts in the Park, Beaufort Humane Association, Beaufort Youth Orchestra, Boys & Girls Club, Child Abuse Prevention Association, Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse, Friends of Caroline Hospice, Laurel Bay Schools, Parris Island Library, Parris Island Museum, Parris Island Youth Center, and Thumbs Up.
  - Individuals scholarships include: Matthew Manthe \$1,000, Wesley Hoover \$750, Stephen Gerhard \$500, Blake Johnson \$500, Tuesday Rhodes \$500, Katie Haymore \$500, Maria Knox \$250, and Rachel Dolby \$250.

**WMA,**  
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turn to get mentorship and to make sure that the history is alive and remembered.”

The scholarship and the local WMA chapter are named after Phyllis Alexander. A former Marine whose hard work in the Corps and out, made a long lasting impact for women Marines and the community.

“Her timeless efforts are why we have teamed up with the Phyllis Alexander chapter of the WMA to provide this scholarship,” said Chuck Taliano, a member of the board of directors for Parris Island Museum and Historical society. “This is an important thing to have as it helps to further the higher education for people in need.”

These scholarships stand as an example of the type of support women Marines have available to them. The only thing the individuals need to do, is put forth the effort and they will get acknowledged. “It demonstrates to the kids that they are being recognized for their accomplishments,” said Maj. Jeff McGill, Junior ROTC leader. “That recognition is an important moral builder for them.”

Creating that support and boosting morale makes an impression on the individual winners as well as on the community at large. “This gives us an opportunity to reach out to the community and show our support for the JROTC program,” said Knox. “It is important for them to understand that we are there for them to provide mentoring, along with monetary and community support.”

That effort by the local chapter embodies what Knox said is the objective of the WMA as a whole. “We are looking at it as helping the next generation of women in the Marine Corps,” said Knox. “We are going to support, help them grow and be strong coming into the Marine Corps. So that when they are in, they are not looking at it as I am alone and there is no one else to emulate. They can see that there are other women Marines that have come before them and will come after them.” That mission of continuance has a special place for Knox who was in Pruett’s shoes when she was in high school. “This is exciting, I am a former JROTC cadet and I was the one who was receiving these types of awards my senior year,” she said. “For me it’s looking back, it’s reminiscence, it’s getting that motivation again to say, ‘I remember when.’ It helped me in my Marine Corps career to know that there are attainable goals. The reward itself is the sense of accomplishment of earning the title Marine and moving on from there.”